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# Waste pits activists criticized by anonymous group

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Jackie Young

Posted: Tuesday, November 22, 2016 12:00 am | Updated: 6:41 am, Wed Nov

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Jacquelyn Young | 0 comments

The San Jacinto River Coalition is being criticized by the anonymous group Keep it Capped for our use of funds generously provided by foundations to support our education and outreach work. We are fortunate to receive funding from organizations and people who truly care about public health, our environment, and the future of Galveston Bay.

Our organization received letters from Mr. Zach Vaughn, a political consultant in Austin, requesting our financial records and threatening legal action if we did not comply. He did not share who his client was.

As a nonprofit organization in Texas, we responded as required by state law. We have nothing to hide. Our response was sent on Nov. 14. On Nov. 17, a post appears on the Facebook site for Keep it Capped (aka San Jacinto Citizens Against Pollution) disclosing the name of a foundation that has supported the San Jacinto River Coalition. It appears that they overinflated the amount of funds received to date. Keep it Capped suggested that the funds should have been used for well testing.

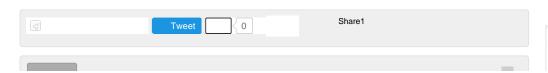
While we are supportive of well testing, we believe the most important initial step is for EPA to require removal of the source waste from the San Jacinto River.

The San Jacinto River Coalition and Texas Health and Environment Alliance have not been secretive of our sources of funding or the work that we do, which has included funding two science-based reports. Keep it Capped has not disclosed who is providing considerable funding to their group or what interests they truly represent. They have chosen not to be incorporated as a nonprofit because that brings transparency that they clearly prefer to avoid.

The San Jacinto River Coalition and Texas Health and Environment Alliance will continue to work to protect public health and Galveston Bay.

Jacquelyn Young is the executive director of Texas Health and Environment Alliance and leader of the San Jacinto River Coalition.

For more, visit txhea.org







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Posted in Guest columns on Tuesday, November 22, 2016 12:00 am. Updated: 6:41 am.

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Area communities — including Baytown, Crosby and Mont Belvieu — will be celebrating the season with Christmas parades among other festivities. Do plan to take part either as a participant or a spectator?

Yes - I'll be in the parade

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No, I'm not a parade person

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Nov. 21, 2016 10:27 AM EST

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Nov. 21, 2016 2:04 AM EST



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